

20. The process of claim 17, wherein the coating composition is applied to the surface by spray or by brush.

21. The process of claim 19, wherein an airless, air-assisted or electrostatically-supported spray process is used as a spray system.

#### REMARKS

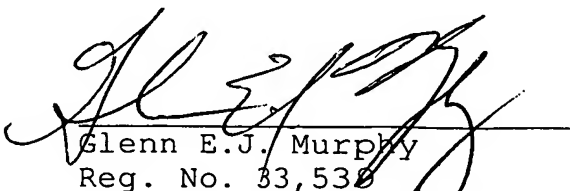
The specification has been amended to include a cross-reference to related applications and headings appropriate to U.S. practice. No new matter has been added.

New claims 12 -21 better claim the full literal and equivalent scope and breadth of subject matter disclosed in the application, notwithstanding applicants' belief that the original claims, drafted for examination in the German and European Patent Offices, would have been allowable but for matters of form permitted in German or European practice but objected to in the U.S.P.T.O. The new claims find support in the application independent of the original claims at page 2, line 21 to page 3, line 33, page 4, lines 28-31, and page 5, lines 4-7. Therefore entering new claims 12-21 is not believed to constitute a narrowing amendment within the holding of Festo Corp. v. Shoketsu Kinzoku Kogyo Kabushiki Co., No. 95-1066 (Fed. Cir. Nov. 29, 2000).

Preliminary Amendment of US National Stage for International  
Application PCT/EP00/09011 filed September 15, 2000

Applicants respectfully request entry of this Amendment  
and examination of the application. If any fees are due to  
enter this paper that have not been accounted for, please  
charge Deposit Account No. 01-1250.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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